

# **HOWARD COUNTY ALCOHOL & DRUG ABUSE ADVISORY BOARD**

## **MEETING MINUTES**

**March 16, 2016**

**Howard County Health Department, Barton A and B**

**ADAAB MEMBERS/DESIGNEES IN ATTENDANCE:** Rick Bergin, Mark Donovan, Robert Ehrhardt, Jennifer Facticeau, Joe Gagliardi, Neil Gwinn, Darrell Horney, Jack Kavanagh, Sophie Lovering, Bruce McDonald, Carol Robinson, Chris Robinson, Roe Rodgers-Bonaccorsy, Cindy Johnson, Joan Webb Scornaienchi, William Tucker, Jen Van Blarcom, Linda Zumbrun

**GUESTS:** Donna Wells

**WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS:** The meeting was called to order at 5:15 P.M. by Chair Joan Webb Scornaienchi. She welcomed the board and guests and everyone introduced themselves.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** The March 16, 2016 Agenda was approved.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The February 17, 2016 Minutes were approved.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**HEALTH DEPARTMENT UPDATE:** Provided by Roe

Jurisdictions across Maryland received grant award letters from the Behavioral Health Administration reducing general treatment budgets to move ambulatory outpatient substance use disorder grant funds to the Administrative Service Agency, Beacon Health Options (formerly known as Value Options). This will allow providers to receive reimbursement for services for the uninsured through Beacon Health Options. The effective date is January 1, 2017 (FY17). This raises concern regarding the ability to sustain adequate access to care since few providers in Howard County are registered providers with Beacon Health Options.

The next Overdose Response Program trainings are scheduled for Monday, March 21, April 25, May 16, and June 13 at 10:00 A.M. at the Health Department. Several other trainings are scheduled at community locations. 107 people have been trained year to date in FY16.

The Health Department is continuing to work with the Detention Center referring inmates for Vivitrol injections prior to release from incarceration. The Health Department provides outpatient treatment and additional Vivitrol injections following release. There have been several new referrals recently.

COMAR 10.63. Community Behavioral Health Programs is still pending. Lots of opposition has been received from the public which has delayed the effective date which was to be 1/1/16. The date agencies are to be accredited is expected to be 18 months from the COMAR effective date.

Keep the Door Open Act SB 497 and HB 682 related to mandatory increases in reimbursement rates was discussed and the possible impact to the field.

**HC DRUGFREE PREVENTION/EDUCATION/OPIOID UPDATE:** Provided by Joan

HC DrugFree now has a Twitter account.

Joan reported that approximately 250 parents and teens attended HC DrugFree's annual *Senior Week: Staying Safe in Ocean City* program on 3-15-16 at Howard High School. The program will be offered again on 3-22-16 at Atholton High School. Judge William Tucker announced to the board that he read a proclamation from County Executive Allan

Kittleman at the 3-16 program declaring it HC DrugFree's Drug and Alcohol Awareness Month. Also, he read and presented certificates from Senator Barbara Mikulski to Joan, Ocean City Police Cpl. Howard Caplan, and Ocean City Beach Patrol Sgt. James McVey for their dedication to serving the community and providing the annual *Senior Week* programs.

The next semi-annual drug Take Back Day is scheduled for Saturday, April 30 from 10 AM to 2 PM. Once again, outside HC DrugFree's office in the Wilde Lake Village Center will be used as a drive-up drop-off site. HC DrugFree is partnering with the Howard County Police on this day as well as throughout the year to promote the permanent medication collection boxes. HC DrugFree's location will be the only site collecting sharps (needles, syringes, and EpiPens).

HC DrugFree completed prescriber interviews and is using the information gathered to create educational opioid materials for prescribers. Joan thanked Dr. Joe Gagliardi, ADAAB member, for participating in the interviews.

HC DrugFree revisited 42 local pharmacies by the end of February to replenish the *In the KNOW about Opioids* educational campaign materials and survey the pharmacists to gather more data. Pharmacy customers requesting assistance to dispose of medications will be given information about the collection boxes. HC DrugFree has received many calls from residents saying their pharmacists suggested they contact HC DrugFree's office to answer medication disposal questions. Joan is pleased about the calls because it is an opportunity to educate the community by sharing additional information about medication disposal and safe storage, Take Back Day events, sharps collections, and other services.

By the end of February, HC DrugFree had 156 responses to the county-wide survey about the *In the KNOW* campaign. That survey is to determine what messaging resonates with residents.

**Memo Recommendation Update:** Joan, Mr. Kavanagh, and Roe are a part of a workgroup to determine how to advocate for support in addressing low Medicaid reimbursements and high cost/staff demand of accreditation. The workgroup reached out to Carl DeLorenzo from the County Executive's Office for assistance. Carl drafted a memo to the County Executive describing the issues and proposed next steps. The memo was shared with ADAAB members to receive feedback. The suggested revisions will be forwarded for inclusion in the memo.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Donna Wells announced that the Local Health Improvement Coalition's Community Forum will be held on March 24 at the Miller Library.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Next Meeting is April 20<sup>th</sup> in the Barton Room at the Howard County Health Department.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 6:04 P.M.

**Minutes Approved 4/20/16**